United Nations E/2015/SR.24

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
9 July 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Second coordination and management meeting

Summary record of the 24th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 10 April 2015, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. Oh Joon (Vice-President) ..... (Republic of Korea)

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In the absence of Mr. Sajdik (Austria), Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (*continued*) (E/2015/1/Add.1*)

Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (*continued*) (E/2015/9/Add.7)

1. **The President** invited the Council to elect 17 members to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018. A secret ballot on the slate of candidates from Asia-Pacific States had been requested, in accordance with rule 68 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council. The Council had postponed the election the day before in order to obtain clarification from its secretariat on the Council's past practice with regard to the conduct of secret ballots in elections to its subsidiary bodies and, in particular, when a secret ballot was requested on a slate of candidates that had been endorsed by a specific regional group.

2. **Ms. DeLaurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that with regard to the conduct of elections to its subsidiary bodies by secret ballot, the past practice of the Council had been to use blank ballot sheets. However, ballot sheets which listed the names of the candidates had been used in instances where there were a large number of candidates, exceeding the number of places to be filled, in order to expedite the process and to minimize the possibility of invalid ballots. Ballot sheets which listed the names of candidates were also used for elections involving a formal nomination process with a deadline. There was very little practice concerning requests for a secret ballot when the number of candidates matched the number of places to be filled. Nevertheless, the practice researched by the Council secretariat indicated that the ballot sheet was left blank in order to allow Council members an opportunity to fill in the names of Member States they wished to elect.

3. At the request of a number of delegations, the names of the slate of candidates endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States for the Executive Board were included on the secret ballot. Delegations would also have the option of adding an eligible candidate from Asia-Pacific States, as long as the total number of candidates indicated on the ballot sheet did not exceed five. Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan, Samoa, Turkmenistan and the United Arab Emirates had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States. Current members of the Executive Board from Asia-Pacific States with terms expiring on 31 December 2016, who were ineligible for election, were Bangladesh, China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea. She then read out the entire list of eligible Asia-Pacific States.

4. **The President** said that he wished to remind Council members that any ballot containing more than five names, a name not from Asia-Pacific States or a name of a current member of the Executive Board from an Asia-Pacific State would be considered invalid.

5. *At the invitation of the President, Mr. Dalo (Argentina) and Mr. Auväärt (Estonia) acted as tellers.*

6. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	53
Number of valid ballots:	53
Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Samoa	53
United Arab Emirates	53
Turkmenistan	52
Pakistan	49
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	36

7. *Having obtained the required majority, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan, Samoa, Turkmenistan and the United Arab Emirates were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.*

8. **The President** invited the Council to elect candidates from the other regional groups. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/289 and Council resolution 2010/35, the Council was to elect 17 members of the Executive Board from the five regional groups for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

9. **Ms. DeLaurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Comoros, Gabon, Liberia, Namibia and Tunisia had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Croatia and the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana and Panama had been endorsed by

the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Germany and Luxembourg had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

10. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States was equal to the number of vacancies for each group, he took it that the Council wished to elect the proposed candidates by acclamation.

11. *Antigua and Barbuda, Comoros, Croatia, Gabon, Germany, Guyana, Liberia, Luxembourg, Namibia, Panama, the Russian Federation and Tunisia were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women by acclamation.*

12. **The President** said that the Council had been informed that Israel, Italy and Portugal were resigning their seats on the Executive Board effective 31 December 2015. The Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Denmark, Spain and Canada to replace Israel, Italy and Portugal, respectively, for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2016. He took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

13. *Canada, Denmark and Spain were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women by acclamation.*

14. **The President** said, with regard to the contributing countries selected by the Council in accordance with paragraph 61(a) of General Assembly resolution 64/289, that the Council had been informed that Denmark, Spain and the United States of America were resigning their seats on the Executive Board effective 31 December 2015. The top 10 contributing countries had endorsed Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands to replace Denmark, Spain and the United States of America, respectively, for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2016. He took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

15. *The Netherlands, Norway and Sweden were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women by acclamation.*

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (continued) (E/2015/9/Add.11)

16. **The President** said that a candidature for an outstanding vacancy on the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme had been received by the Council secretariat the night before. At its 21st meeting, held on Wednesday, 8 April, the Council had decided to further postpone five outstanding vacancies from Western European and other States on the Governing Council. At that time, he had encouraged Member States in that Group to fill those outstanding vacancies at the earliest possible date. If he heard no objection, he would invite the Council to take action on that outstanding vacancy on the Governing Council.

17. *It was so decided.*

18. **Ms. DeLaurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Sweden had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Governing Council, beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

19. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to elect Sweden to the Governing Council by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

20. *Sweden was elected a member of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme by acclamation.*

21. **The President** said he took it that the Council decided to further postpone the election of the four outstanding vacancies on the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, all from Western European and other States, two for terms expiring on 31 December 2016 and two for terms expiring on 31 December 2018, all beginning on the date of election.

22. *It was so decided.*

23. **The President** urged the regional group concerned to submit its nominees for those unfilled seats at the earliest opportunity.

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.